women's growth with greater access to finicial resources and training. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) will be universalised by 97-98 as against existing coverage of about 4329 blocks.

The Land Reforms (LR) in the Ninth plan would include detection/ redistribution of surplus land, prevention of a lieniation of tribal lands and preference to women in the distribution of ceiling surplus land.

(c) The Conference of Chief Ministers held in July, 1996 identified 7 basic minimum services for universal coverage in a time bound manner. These are 100% coverage of primary health facilities, provision of safe drinking water to all, universalisation of primary education, public housing assistance to shelterless, nutritional support to children, connectivity of all unconnected villages and habitations and streamlining the public distribution system with a focus on the poor.

Proposals for Rural Sanitation in Andhra Pradesh

1455. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for rural sanitation in Andhra Pradesh was forwarded to the Prime Minister in October, 1995;

(b) whether main objective of this project was to provide latrines and other senitation facilities in rural areas of the State;

(c) if so, whether Government have since cleared the proposal;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) to (e) The State Government was requested to revise the project particularly to include the following:

(i) Adoption of low cost models of sanitary latrines ranging from Rs. 300 to Rs. 3000/- instead of depending upon single model of two pit pour flush latrines costing Rs. 2000/- per unit.

(ii) Village sanitation complex for women.

(iii) School sanitation.

(iv) Rural Sanitary Marts as an alternate delivery system particularly for people above the poverty line.

(v) Information, Education and Communication component for creation of felt need, demand, health education and awareness.

Small, Marginal and Big Farmers with Land Ownership

1456. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and marginal farmers with ownership of land, State-wise;

(b) how these figures compare with big farmers with land owned by them;

(c) whether Government propose to review the position of small and marginal farmers, in the context of various schemes started for their betterment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) The State-wise information is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

(b) In India, statistics are compiled showing any operational holding of agriculatural land exceeding 10 hectares

to be large-size holding and hence, they may be treated as big farmers. According to the latest figure received from 48th round of NSS data during 1996, such big farmers constitute only 0.88% of total land owners but they own 13.83% of total agricultural land of this country.

(c) and (d) Some State laws allow allotment of ceiling surplus land to the marginal farmers and hence, such marginal farmers are being benefited out of additional allotment of land out of ceiling surplus land, bhoodan land, Government wasteland. Under IRDP, RE and Watershed Development Schemes of this Ministry, the small and marginal farmers can improve their economic conditions by taking up watershed development projects, minor irrigation projects including Million Well Scheme and additional income generation programmes by undertaking divercification of agricultural and other allied activities. The land purchase programme under IRDP can also be taken up for self-employment as well as for bringing higher productivity in agricultural and allied activities.

Statement

State-wise Figures on percentage distribution of households and area owned by Small and Marginal Farmers in India (48th Round of NSS Data-1996)

State	Percentage of households		Percentage distribution of area owned	
	Marginal farmer	small farmers	Marginal farmer	small farmers
1. Andhra Pradesh	76.41	12.35	21.30	22.44
2. Assam	77.69	14.82	38.05	29.07
3. Bihar	80.56	11.10	28.58	23.84
4. Gujarat	63.33	15.18	9.55	15.44
5. Haryana	59.04	13.49	7.96	13.43
6. Himachal Pradesh	79.17	11.55	34.99	20.35
7. Jammu & Kashmir	63.40	23.88	25.52	33.40
8. Karnataka	58.72	18.27	11.05	18.35
9. Kerala	92.66	5.23	54.51	24.19
10. Madhya Pradesh	52.38	19.19	7.61	15.49
11. Maharashtra	59.47	14.19	7.02	12.61
12. Orissa	75.71	14.42	26.37	27.16
13. Punjab	69.63	9.98	7.18	12.35
14. Rajasthan	44.50	18.53	5.42	10.04
15. Tamil Nadu	87.13	8.01	33.28	26.24
16. Uttar Pradesh	74.40	14.73	27.42	24.88
17. West Bengal	85.88	9.48	41.29	28.11
All India	71.88	13.42	16.93	18.59